

This, to my notion, is a good argument in favor of the Goodrich amendment. Many people are talking about property tax relief. This is what we have in this bill also. I believe these are two very good arguments in support of the Goodrich amendment. I recommend that you support it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I wonder if Senator Goodrich would yield for a question. Senator Goodrich, considering what Senator Lamb just said, the merits, since the local counties do not have any control over the welfare system, and your amendment would phase this out over a period of time, could I ask this question, would your amendment allow for statewide administration so that we could also, along with counties not having any control now we could also have some cost savings in the administration, in the actual placement of offices and take local county boards and so forth and deal with the welfare system on a state basis?

SENATOR GOODRICH: No, my amendment does not deal with that all because of the fact that some of the counties, about half of the counties, rather, are opposed to the transfer of administration from the county to the state. I did not include that particular thing in my amendment. My bill has nothing to do with transferring of administration. That is left with the county.

SENATOR NEWELL: Thank you. Senator Lamb, one of the problems we have here in this piece of legislation is that while we may provide some tax relief for local county governments, we do not find any efficiency in terms of the state and so forth. We can't consolidate offices. We'll still have offices in every county in the state whether we need them or not. If we look to South Dakota, not too very far away, we'll find that they've cut down the number of employees are very small in their total Welfare Department in the state. They have one office for a multi county region. We would still have an office and a director in each and every county, each and every one of the 93 counties in the state. I oppose the Goodrich amendment because it doesn't provide for any other thing than property tax relief at the expense of the state, and the state has no ability to provide any greater cost savings in the administration. For that reason I think Senator Goodrich's proposal only goes half way. Because of that I think we ought to go no way. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd have to rise in support of the Goodrich amendment. The counties do not have too much to say at the present time on welfare. I feel that if we can kind of phase this down the next six years, this is what we want to do. Therefore I'd urge you to support the Goodrich amendment.

PRESIDENT: Would you want to close on your amendment, Senator Goodrich?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Okay. What the amendment does again, in case there is anybody here in the room that was not here when I explained it, the amendment puts the bill in the form so that we can then discuss the bill itself. We at least have